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Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 27 November 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

During this past week, Israeli occupying forces intensified their bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Israeli occupying forces committed additional war crimes and other atrocities with the obvious intent of blocking attempts to end the current situation and to resume the peace process.

On Thursday, 22 November 2001, an explosive device planted by Israeli occupying forces in an area used by pedestrians near the city of Khan Younis exploded, killing five Palestinian children. The children, all from the same family, whose ages ranged from 6 to 13, died instantly as the explosive tore their bodies to pieces. The next day, during the funeral of those children, Israeli occupying forces shot and killed another 15-year-old Palestinian child.

On Friday, 23 November 2001, Israeli occupying forces committed yet another extrajudicial execution. Israeli helicopter gunships fired several missiles at a car near the city of Nablus, instantly killing Mahmoud Abu Hanoud and two brothers, Ayman Hashayka and Mamoun Hashayka.

Furthermore, on Sunday, 25 November 2001, Israeli occupying forces shot live ammunition at a group of youth demonstrating in the city of Bethlehem, killing a 12-year-old child. On the same day, in Gaza, Israeli helicopter gunships fired several missiles at buildings belonging to the Palestinian police in northern and southern Gaza. Moreover, Israeli occupying forces demolished two homes belonging to Palestinian civilians near the town of Deir Al-Balah.

In follow-up to my previous 81 letters to you regarding this ongoing crisis situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 19 November 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-

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S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; and A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092), I regret to inform you that, since my last letter to you on 19 November, 12 more Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs, including the martyrs mentioned above, are contained in the annex to the present letter.) These killings raise the number of Palestinians killed since 28 September 2000 to 777. At the same time, the number of Palestinians injured, many critically, by the occupying forces, also continues to rise.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 4 December 2001 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I would like to draw your attention, as a matter of extreme importance, to the dramatic worsening of the security situation in the past few days in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem.

Last weekend, we were all shocked and dismayed over the deaths of innocent Israeli civilians. The Committee condemns such attacks on civilian population, irrespective of their origin, and considers that they should not be allowed to perpetuate.

At the same time, the Committee wishes to draw your most urgent attention to the continuing brutal and disproportionate suppression by the Israel Defence Forces of Palestinian protests against the Israeli occupation. Over decades, it has become absolutely clear that the international community considers the occupation both illegal and morally unacceptable. This has once again been illustrated by the overwhelming majority of votes cast yesterday in favour of General Assembly resolution 56/36, entitled "Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine". It is also evident that a broad consensus has emerged with respect to the need for the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to establish their independent State.

The Committee remains gravely concerned over Israel's continued reliance on its military might, recurrent incursions of the Israel Defence Forces into Palestinian-controlled areas, expansion of settlements and their infrastructure, demolition of Palestinian houses and other property, extrajudicial assassinations of Palestinian officials and activists, stifling economic blockades of the Palestinian territory, and the angry and frustrated response on the part of the Palestinian people. These policies and actions are bound to undo years of laborious and very complex peace efforts by the parties and the co-sponsors of the peace process.

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To prevent this and the concomitant further escalation of violence and suffering for both peoples from happening, we call upon the parties to refrain from acts of mutual recrimination, violence and counter-violence, and return to the fold of the peace process. For that, both sides will have to implement fully and without delay the Mitchell Committee recommendations and the Tenet understandings. As the parties are likely to continue to experience confidence-related problems, as they have in the past, the assistance of the co-sponsors, the European Union and yourself remains as critical as ever.

Also, as the source of continual tension between the two sides lies in the illegal Israeli occupation, we support the idea of convening another meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, in order to look into Israel's compliance with the provisions of international humanitarian law and ways of protecting the Palestinian civilian population. It is also our firm belief that the Security Council, with its primary concern for the maintenance of international peace and security, as stipulated in the United Nations Charter, has a responsibility to engage itself in the matter with a view to preventing any further escalation of the situation and widening of the conflict.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Papa Louis **Fall**
Chairman
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

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Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 4 December 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, has started yet another chapter in its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people, which began over a year ago on 28 September 2000. Yesterday, 3 December 2001, Israeli helicopter gunships fired missiles at a heliport in a presidential compound in Gaza, destroying helicopters belonging to the Palestinian Authority and other facilities in the compound. In the early morning hours of that day, Israeli tanks and bulldozers also entered the vicinity of Gaza International Airport and destructed the main runway. Israeli occupying forces also used helicopter gunships and F-16 fighter planes to bombard several Palestinian security installations and ministry buildings throughout Gaza City and in the city of Jenin.

Today, Israeli occupying forces continued those attacks, targeting buildings of the Palestinian Authority in Ramallah, where they fired missiles at facilities less than 50 metres away from the headquarters of President Arafat while he was there. In addition to the attacks on Ramallah, Israeli helicopters and warplanes carried out attacks on Palestinian sites in Khan Yunis, Tulkarem, Qalqilya and Nablus. Israeli occupying forces also moved their tanks and armoured personnel carriers far into areas under full Palestinian control, reoccupying parts of those areas and imposing a virtual siege on several Palestinian cities. The attacks by the occupying Power have all targeted facilities located in residential Palestinian neighbourhoods, causing a high number of injuries, wreaking vast physical destruction, and intensifying fear and panic among the Palestinian people. Moreover, the Israeli assaults today killed four people, including a 15-year-old Palestinian boy and a Palestinian security officer, increasing the Palestinian death toll.

All of the above actions have been coupled with a wave of belligerent statements by Israeli officials, including statements by Mr. Ariel Sharon, declaring war and war-like activities against the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian people. Israel attempts to present all of the atrocities and war crimes it is committing as part of a campaign against terrorism and, at the same time, while it commits those

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atrocities, it expects the Palestinian Authority to be able to fulfil its responsibilities in the security arena. This is absurd since Israeli military actions can only ensure the failure of any efforts to bring about a better security situation and can only serve to create more hatred and more violence and escalate tensions. Mr. Sharon has always been publicly against achieving a peaceful settlement and against implementing the recommendations of the Mitchell Committee and any serious attempts to end the current situation. Although on the Palestinian side there may be some extremists who do not want peace, on the Israeli side it is actually the Prime Minister himself who clearly does not want peace.

As the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, continues to deteriorate, with increasing danger to the lives of the Palestinian people and to the stability of the entire region, it is incumbent upon the international community and the Security Council in particular to bear their responsibilities. Urgent action must be undertaken by the Security Council to bring the situation under control and bring an immediate end to the dramatic escalation of Israel's political and military attacks against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority.

In follow-up to my previous 82 letters to you regarding this grave situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 27 November 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; and A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118), I regret to inform you that since my last letter to you on 27 November 2001, 12 more Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces (the names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter),

bringing the total number of Palestinians killed since 28 September 2000 to 789 martyrs.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador, Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 4 December 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Thursday, 29 November 2001 through Tuesday, 4 December 2001)

Thursday, 29 November 2001

1. Saeed Rashad Abdel Rahman Mihana
2. Ramy Mohammed Mansour

Sunday, 2 December 2001

1. Ramy Asous (12 years old)
2. Ahmed Abu Shahla (10 years old)

Monday, 3 December 2001

1. Raafat Bajali
2. Yehia Mohamed Abu 'Abid
3. Mohammed Subhi Sunjaq

Tuesday, 4 December 2001

1. Nidal Al Derabani (died from wounds sustained on 3 December 2001)
2. Amjad Al Toubasi
3. Mohammed Ahmed Siyam
4. Mohammed Abu Marsa (15 years old)
5. Mohammed Abu Taqiah

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* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 789.

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Israel, the occupying Power, continues with its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, committing yet additional war crimes and State terrorism. Today, in another attempt at extrajudicial executions, Israeli helicopter gunships fired missiles at a Palestinian car in the city of Al-Khalil (Hebron), killing two children, 3-year-old Burhan Himouni and 16-year-old Shadi Arafa. In addition, this Israeli attack resulted in the wounding of six men, including the apparent intended target.

Before dawn on Sunday, 9 December 2001 (Palestine time), Israeli tanks and personnel carriers supported by helicopter gunships invaded the village of Anabta to the East of Tulkarem. While occupying the village, Israeli occupying forces heavily shot at a Palestinian police car and a following car, killing in cold blood four policemen and seriously injuring two others. Israeli occupying forces also dynamited a house and burned another after storming into all the houses of the village. Moreover, in two successive air raids, Israeli fighter jets levelled the headquarters of the Palestinian police in Gaza City, and Israeli helicopter gunships fired on and destroyed a building belonging to the Palestinian security police in Rafah at dawn on Friday, 7 December, and Saturday, 8 December 2001, respectively.

In addition to the above, on Wednesday, 5 December 2001, in the city of Ramallah, Israeli occupying forces stormed and vandalized the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, confiscating valuable materials. The occupying Power then added the condemnable critical step of convening the Israeli weekly cabinet meeting yesterday, 9 December 2001, in the Occupied Territories near the city of Ramallah. All of the above actions indicate, beyond any doubt, that the Government of Mr. Ariel Sharon wants to ensure the failure of any attempt to get out of the current tragic situation. Furthermore, it shows that the government is bent on the destruction of the capacity of the Palestinian people, the Palestinian Authority and any potential for peace in the Middle East.

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In follow-up to my previous 83 letters to you regarding this grave situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 4 December 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118 and A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149), I regret to inform you that since my last letter to you, on 4 December, 14 more Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) These killings raise the total number of Palestinians killed since 28 September 2000 to 803 martyrs.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 10 December 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem[a] (Thursday, 6 December, to Monday, 10 December 2001)

Thursday, 6 December 2001

1. Taj Al-Dean Rajab Al-Masri
2. Saqr Al-Dabary (from wounds sustained)

Friday, 7 December 2001

1. Lo'ay Selim Mashal
2. Aid Ahmed Mashal

Saturday, 8 December 2001

1. Khalil Abdel Fatah Abu Shaweesh (from wounds sustained)

Sunday, 9 December 2001

1. Adnan Mahmoud Suliman Jumaa
2. Ahmed Sameeh Ahmed Al-Koo'a
3. Saeed Abdel Fatah Saeed Al-Dredey
4. Munif Helmy Mohammed Hamada
5. Marwan Subhi Jamil Abu Mu'nes
6. Naief Fares Kasem Kabha

Monday, 10 December 2001

1. Burhan Himouni (3 years old)
2. Shadi Arafa (16 years old)
3. Ayman Abdel Hamid Eid

[a] The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 803.